

# INFORMATION REPORT

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Ost

2. The new head of the Reichsbahn Main Headquarters Traffic Department is (fnu) Lailach, formerly of RBD Briurt. For some previous months Lailach had been acting as the technical advisor to the Deputy Director-General (fnu) Lehmann.

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3. The new head of the Reichsbahn Main Headquarters Department for Social Welfare and Cultural Affairs is Elsa Klein, formerly secretary to Lore Pieck, daughter of the DDR President. Her appointment is said to be based on special demands of the SED Central Committee.

4. The 18 km. stretch of former privately-owned rail line between Mittenwalde-Nord and Schönefeld, the Mittenwalder Eisenbahn, is being dismantled to provide rail for track being laid at the new steel plant at Fürstenberg, Eisenhüttenkombinat Ost.

5. The 15 km. track running between Dürrröhrsdorf, Weissig, and Bühlau has been dismantled. The 13 km. narrow-gauge line Gossdorf Kohnmühle to Hohnstein has also been dismantled. This track is being used to double-track the line running from Bad Schandau to the CSR border station of Bodenbach, a distance of 24 km.

6. On 22 December 1951, a passenger train from the Soviet Union, consisting of 15 four-axle coaches loaded with returning German scientists and technicians, crossed the border into the DDR.

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7. At the Bad Schandau border between the DDR and CSR, 12 pairs of regular trains cross daily. There are, in addition, an average of four special trains each way. Cargoes consist mainly of lignite briquettes, fertilizers and wood. During the six weeks following 1 November 1951, 75 full trainloads of potatoes crossed the border at Bad Schandau destined for Hungary. In the same period, seven cars of live hogs for slaughter from Hungary entered the DDR.

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